

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/714,190

Applicant(s)

HOU, XIAOAN

Examiner

CHAN S. PARK

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/21/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,5-11,14-17 and 20-22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20060204.
- ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other _____

Stamp: SEARCHED, SERIALIZED, INDEXED, FILED, MAR 2006, U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ALLOWANCE

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment was received on 11/21/05, and has been entered and made of record.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. James M. Berger, Reg. No. 51,461 on February 3, 2006.

3. The application has been amended as follows:
Cancel claims 23 and 24.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. **Claims 1, 2, 5-11, 14-17 and 20-22** are allowed. These claims will be renumbered as 1-16.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claims define a system for transmitting a facsimile, comprising:

means for forming an electronic mail address that always includes (1) an Internet electronic mail address of a fax machine, (2) the input password of the fax machine, and (3) a receiver fax number;

means for transmitting the electronic mail message to the fax machine; and

means for determining whether to print the image at the fax machine or forward the image to a second fax machine corresponding to the receiver fax number based only on the electronic mail address.

The features identified are disclosed in page 11, lines 1-16 of the Specification.

The claims distinguish over the prior art in that the receiver fax number included in the electronic mail address can be the fax number of the fax machine. Specifically, the cited portion of the Specification states "If the fax number is the fax number of the Internet fax machine, the facsimile 420 is printed at Internet fax machine 408 in step S414."

Many prior art references teach the concept of including (1) an Internet electronic mail address of a fax machine, (2) the input password of the fax machine, and (3) a receiver fax number in the electronic mail address. Refer to figs. 4 & 5 of Toyoda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,330,070) and fig. 23 of Mori (U.S. Patent No. 6,384,927). However,

both fail to teach/disclose the electronic mail address that always including (1) an Internet electronic mail address of a fax machine, (2) the input password of the fax machine, and (3) a receiver fax number in the electronic mail address, wherein the receiver fax number is the fax number of the fax machine.

Finally, Otsuka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,700,674) teaches the method of including both the email address of a fax machine and the telephone number of the fax machine in the electronic mail address for providing two different facsimile transmission routes. However, it is noted that the system of Otsuka does not teach means for relaying the facsimile to the second fax machine. Examiner does not find any motivation/suggestion for combining Toyoda with Otsuka to obtain the invention as specified in all independent claims since Otsuka does not suggest relaying the facsimile to another fax machine based on the fax number.

Thus, the features identified, in combination with other claim limitations, are neither suggested nor discussed by the prior art of record.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2622

Contact Information

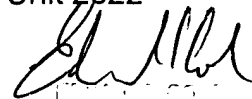
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAN S. PARK whose telephone number is (571) 272-7409. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

csp
February 3, 2006

Chan S. Park
Examiner
Art Unit 2622



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